

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled).

14 (new) A method of modifying the physicochemical properties of the surface of the skin and/or of the mucous membranes, so as to reduce the adhesion of microorganisms to the skin and/or the mucous membranes comprising contacting a composition with said skin and/or mucous membranes, said composition being devoid of an antibiotic agent or a bacterial agent or a fungicidal agent, said composition comprising, as active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or a pharmaceutical composition, a modifying effective quantity of at least one compound, which is free of carbohydrate units, selected from the group consisting of disodium cocoamphodiacetate, oxyethylenated glyceryl cocoate (7 EO), a ricinoleic monoethanolamide monosulphosuccinate salt, oxyethylenated hydrogenated ricinoleic triglyceride containing 60 ethylene units, a poloxamer, a polyacrylamide, PEG-20 hexadecenyl succinate, sesame oil, octoxyglyceryl palmitate, octoxyglyceryl behenate, dioctyl adipate, PEG-15 stearyl ether, apricot stone oil, and tartrate of a branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dialcohol, said compound being capable, in the absence of antibiotic, bactericidal or fungicidal agent, of reducing the decimal logarithm of the mean number of viable bacteria adhering to reconstructed epidermis to at least 0.3 less when said epidermis is contacted with said compound as compared to water, as measured by contacting said epidermis with a test compound for 2 hours at 37° C.

15. (new) A method of Claim 14 wherein said compound is capable of reducing said decimal logarithm to at least 0.5 less than that obtained by a test carried out with water under the same conditions.

16. (new) A method of Claim 14 wherein said compound is capable of reducing said decimal logarithm to at least 1.0 less than that obtained by a test carried out with water under the same conditions.

17. (new) A method of Claim 14, wherein said at least one compound is present in a quantity ranging from 0.1% to 100% of the total weight of the composition.

18. (new) A method of Claim 17, wherein said at least one compound is present in a quantity ranging from 0.5% to 50% of the total weight of the composition.

19. (new) A method of Claim 17, wherein the active ingredient is present in a quantity ranging from 1% to 25% of the total weight of the composition.

20. (new) A method of Claim 14, wherein the composition is provided in the form of a lotion, an aqueous gel, a serum, an emulsion or a dispersion of lipid vesicles.

21. (new) A method of cosmetic treatment for treating at least one of comedones, dandruff, mycosis, acne and/or reducing bad body odor and/or for body hygiene health care, said method comprising applying to the skin and/or the mucous membranes of a person in need of said treatment a composition devoid of an antibiotic agent or a bacterial agent or a fungicidal agent, said composition comprising, as active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or a pharmaceutical composition, a treatment effective quantity of at least one compound, which is free of carbohydrate units, selected from the group consisting of disodium cocoamphodiacetate, oxyethylenated glyceryl cocoate (7 EO), a ricinoleic monoethanolamide monosulphosuccinate salt, oxyethylenated hydrogenated ricinoleic triglyceride containing 60 ethylene units, a

poloxamer, a polyacrylamide, PEG-20 hexadecenyl succinate, sesame oil, octoxyglyceryl palmitate, octoxyglyceryl behenate, dioctyl adipate, PEG-15 stearyl ether, apricot stone oil, and tartrate of a branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dialcohol, said compound being capable, in the absence of antibiotic, bactericidal or fungicidal agent, of reducing the decimal logarithm of the mean number of viable bacteria adhering to reconstructed epidermis to at least 0.3 less when said epidermis is contacted with said compound as compared to water, as measured by contacting said epidermis with a test compound for 2 hours at 37° C.

22. (new) A cosmetic treatment method for the reduction of bad body odors and/or for body hygiene health care comprising topical application to a person in need of said treatment a composition devoid of an antibiotic agent or a bacterial agent or a fungicidal agent, said composition comprising, as active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or a pharmaceutical composition, a treatment effective quantity of at least one compound, which is free of carbohydrate units, selected from the group consisting of disodium cocoamphodiacetate, oxyethylenated glyceryl cocoate (7 EO), a ricinoleic monoethanolamide monosulphosuccinate salt, oxyethylenated hydrogenated ricinoleic triglyceride containing 60 ethylene units, a poloxamer, a polyacrylamide, PEG-20 hexadecenyl succinate, sesame oil, octoxyglyceryl palmitate, octoxyglyceryl behenate, dioctyl adipate, PEG-15 stearyl ether, apricot stone oil, and tartrate of a branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dialcohol, said compound being capable, in the absence of antibiotic, bactericidal or fungicidal agent, of reducing the decimal logarithm of the mean number of viable bacteria adhering to reconstructed epidermis to at least 0.3 less when said

epidermis is contacted with said compound as compared to water, as measured by contacting said epidermis with a test compound for 2 hours at 37° C.

23. (new) A cosmetic treatment method for combating comedones and/or dandruff comprising topical application to a person in need of said treatment a composition with said skin and/or mucous membranes, said composition being devoid of an antibiotic agent or a bacterial agent or a fungicidal agent, said composition comprising, as active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or a pharmaceutical composition, a treatment effective quantity of at least one compound, which is free of carbohydrate units, selected from the group consisting of disodium cocoamphodiacetate, oxyethylenated glyceryl cocoate (7 EO), a ricinoleic monoethanolamide monosulphosuccinate salt, oxyethylenated hydrogenated ricinoleic triglyceride containing 60 ethylene units, a poloxamer, a polyacrylamide, PEG-20 hexadecenyl succinate, sesame oil, octoxyglyceryl palmitate, octoxyglyceryl behenate, dioctyl adipate, PEG-15 stearyl ether, apricot stone oil, and tartrate of a branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dialcohol, said compound being capable, in the absence of antibiotic, bactericidal or fungicidal agent, of reducing the decimal logarithm of the mean number of viable bacteria adhering to reconstructed epidermis to at least 0.3 less when said epidermis is contacted with said compound as compared to water, as measured by contacting said epidermis with a test compound for 2 hours at 37° C.

24. (new) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition devoid of an antibiotic agent or a bacterial agent or a fungicidal agent, and being intended to be used

by topical application to combat mycosis and/or acne comprising admixing at least one compound, which is free of carbohydrate units, selected from the group consisting of disodium cocoamphodiacetate, oxyethylenated glyceryl cocoate (7 EO), a ricinoleic monoethanolamide monosulphosuccinate salt, oxyethylenated hydrogenated ricinoleic triglyceride containing 60 ethylene units, a poloxamer, a polyacrylamide, PEG-20 hexadecenyl succinate, sesame oil, octoxyglyceryl palmitate, octoxyglyceryl behenate, dioctyl adipate, PEG-15 stearyl ether, apricot stone oil, and tartrate of a branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dialcohol, said compound being capable, in the absence of antibiotic, bactericidal or fungicidal agent, of reducing the decimal logarithm of the mean number of viable bacteria adhering to reconstructed epidermis to at least 0.3 less when said epidermis is contacted with said compound as compared to water, as measured by contacting said epidermis with a test compound for 2 hours at 37° C, in a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

25. (new) A composition for modifying the physicochemical properties of the surface of the skin and/or of the mucous membranes, so as to reduce the adhesion of microorganisms to the skin and/or the mucous membranes, said composition being devoid of an antibiotic agent or a bacterial agent or a fungicidal agent, said composition comprising, as active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or a pharmaceutical composition, a modifying effective quantity of at least one compound, which is free of carbohydrate units, selected from the group consisting of disodium cocoamphodiacetate, oxyethylenated glyceryl cocoate (7 EO), a ricinoleic monoethanolamide monosulphosuccinate salt, oxyethylenated hydrogenated ricinoleic

triglyceride containing 60 ethylene units, a poloxamer, a polyacrylamide, PEG-20 hexadecenyl succinate, sesame oil, octoxyglyceryl palmitate, octoxyglyceryl behenate, dioctyl adipate, PEG-15 stearyl ether, apricot stone oil, and tartrate of a branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>13</sub> dialcohol, said compound being capable, in the absence of antibiotic, bactericidal or fungicidal agent, of reducing the decimal logarithm of the mean number of viable bacteria adhering to reconstructed epidermis to at least 0.3 less when said epidermis is contacted with said compound as compared to water, as measured by contacting said epidermis with a test compound for 2 hours at 37° C.

26. (new) A composition of Claim 25 wherein said compound is capable of reducing said decimal logarithm to at least 0.5 less than that obtained by a test carried out with water under the same conditions.

27. (new) A composition of Claim 25 wherein said compound is capable of reducing said decimal logarithm to at least 1.0 less than that obtained by a test carried out with water under the same conditions.

28. (new) A composition of Claim 25, wherein the said at least one compound is present in a quantity ranging from 0.1% to 100% of the total weight of the composition.

29. (new) A composition of Claim 28, wherein the said at least one compound is present in a quantity ranging from 0.5% to 50% of the total weight of the composition.

30. (new) A composition of Claim 28, wherein the said at least one compound is present in a quantity ranging from 1% to 25% of the total weight of the composition.

31. (new) A composition of Claim 25, wherein the composition is provided in the form of a lotion, an aqueous gel, a serum, an emulsion or a dispersion of lipid vesicles.

32. (new) A composition of Claim 25, wherein the composition is provided in the form of a lotion, an aqueous gel, a serum, an emulsion or a dispersion of lipid vesicles.